

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~May 24th, 1959COCOM Document No. 3542COORDINATING COMMITTEERECORD OF DISCUSSIONONTHE INSTALLATION OF EMBARGOED EQUIPMENT IN CIVIL AIRCRAFTEXPORTED TO THE SOVIET BLOCMay 25th, 1959

Present: Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Turkey,
United Kingdom, United States.

References: COCOM 3493, 3513.

1. The CHAIRMAN recalled that at the previous meeting (COCOM 3513), the United Kingdom had proposed that sub-items (3) and (4) of Item 1501(a) should be omitted from the list of exceptions proposed by the German Delegation (COCOM 3493) concerning the installation of embargoed equipment in civil aircraft. He invited Delegates to give the views of their authorities on the original German proposal and also on the United Kingdom modification to it.

2. The Chairman read the following statement on behalf of the BELGIAN Delegate:

"(a) The competent Belgian authorities do not fully share the German Delegation's view that the embargo should be extended to cover civil aircraft which have been freed since 15th August 1958 if these include material covered by Items 1485 and 1501 unless this material comes under the exceptions of paragraphs (d) and (e) of Item 1485 and paragraphs (a) and (b)(2) of Item 1501.

"(b) Doubtless the equipment referred to in the two items mentioned has been placed under embargo in view of its strategic significance. It nevertheless appears somewhat doubtful that countries in the Sino-Soviet Bloc contemplate acquiring civil aircraft with the sole aim of obtaining at the same time equipment which would be refused if ordered direct. An argument of this nature had moreover been invoked by the majority of the Delegations to the Coordinating Committee during discussion of the United States Memorandum proposing the inclusion of Item 1510 in paragraph (e) of Item 1416 covering new or second hand vessels sold to the Soviet Bloc.

"(c) The German Delegation have themselves held the view that the presence of depth sounders intended for use as fish or whale finding equipment (Item 1510) in vessels not subject to embargo should not involve prohibition of the sale of these vessels to the Soviet Bloc. If however the other Member Governments of the Coordinating Committee feel that they should support the German Government's proposal, the Belgian Delegation is authorised, in a spirit of compromise, to adopt the same position."

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

COCOM Document No. 3542

3. The FRENCH Delegate said that his authorities were still studying this question and would not be able to give their final views for another week.
4. The JAPANESE Delegate confirmed his ad referendum acceptance of the German and United Kingdom proposals (COCOM 3513, paragraph 6).
5. The ITALIAN Delegate stated that his authorities could accept the original German proposal. He had not yet received instructions on the United Kingdom modification but would agree with the majority of the Committee on this point.
6. The UNITED STATES Delegate said, with reference to the United Kingdom proposal, that his authorities did not feel that all the technology protected by sub-items (3) and (4) of Item 1501(a) had been compromised by the export of Convairs to Poland. They considered that this technology should still be denied to the Soviet Bloc.
7. The NETHERLANDS Delegate said that his authorities could accept the German proposal and were open-minded on the United Kingdom modification.
8. The DANISH Delegate said that he could accept the German proposal together with the United Kingdom modification.
9. The TURKISH Delegate said that he would follow the view of the majority of the Committee on both questions.
10. The GERMAN Delegate thanked Delegations for the views they had expressed. With regard to the United Kingdom modification, his authorities did not feel that the fact that some equipment of this type had been shipped to Poland would make it unnecessary to continue with its embargo, even when it was exported with a complete aircraft. They were not sure that all possible technology covered by these two sub-items had been made available to Poland and, even if this were so, they still felt that it should not be made available to other countries of the Soviet Bloc. However his authorities would not like their own proposal to fall through because of opposition to the modification put forward by the United Kingdom and they were therefore prepared to accept the view of the majority of the Committee on the United Kingdom proposal if the delivery were restricted to aircraft which had been in civil use for two years or more, as an analogy to the exceptions to Item 1485. In view of the fact that most Delegations seemed prepared to accept the original German proposal, he expressed the hope that the United Kingdom would reconsider their position and accept the original German proposal. Referring then to the comments made in the Belgian statement, the Delegate said that he did not think there was a valid analogy with fish finding equipment. The agreement to place the latter under embargo had been purely as a matter of compromise, for such equipment had not previously been clearly caught by the embargo.
11. The UNITED KINGDOM Delegate undertook to refer the comments of the German Delegate back to his authorities.
12. The COMMITTEE agreed to continue the discussion on June 4th.

CONFIDENTIAL